

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/465,514

Attorney Docket # A7254 /
ST9-98-094

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited with the *Information Disclosure Statement* filed June 18, 2004.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-42 are all the claims pending in the Application. Claims 1-42 stand rejected.

This Action Is Improperly Made "Final"

Applicant respectfully submits that this Action is improperly "Final." MPEP § 706.07(a) indicates that a "second or any subsequent actions on the merits shall be final, except where the examiner introduces a new ground of rejection that is neither necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement filed during the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(c) ..." (emphasis added).

Here, the Examiner has introduced new grounds of rejection, i.e., claims 17-23 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This new rejection was not necessitated by applicant's amendment, as claims 17-23 were not amended in response to the April 22, 2004 *Office Action*. Nor was this rejection based upon information submitted in an information disclosure statement (IDS) during the 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) period.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that this is an improper "Final" *Office Action*, and requests the corresponding withdrawal of the "Finality."

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected independent claims 17 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

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Claim 17 is directed to “[an] access control method comprising: requesting access ...” MPEP § 2106(IV)(B)(2)(b) specifies that “a claim that requires one or more acts to be performed defines a process.” “Requesting access” is an act.

Claim 22 is directed to a “[a] computer-readable medium having computer-executable code stored thereon, comprising: computer instructions for...” MPEP § 2106(IV)(B)(1)(a) specifies that “a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure defines structural and functional interrelationships between the data structure and the computer software and hardware components which permit the data structure's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory.”

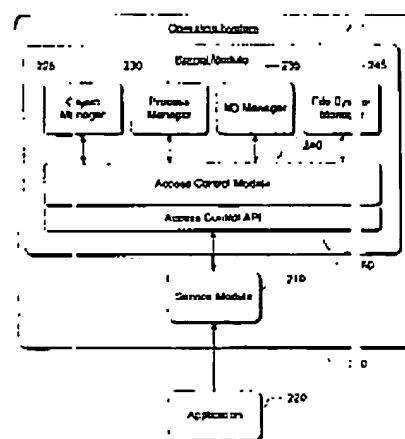
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Garg et al.* (US 6,625,603 B1; hereinafter “*Garg et al.*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Applied Reference

Garg discloses an access control system (see FIG. 2, reproduced to the right) that operates within kernel 235 of an operating system 200 of a computer (col. 3, lines 12-26). Each object (e.g., files or folders) stored in the operating system 200 is assigned a GUID that is “not to be re-used by another application” in the operating system 200 (col. 6, line 60 - col. 7, line 6). When



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applications running in operating system 200 seek to access an object, the applications call service provider module 210, which checks with access control module 240 (col. 13, line 60 - col. 14, line 12) to review an access control list of the object (col. 8, lines 23-28). The access control lists contains USERIDs or GROUPIDs that are allowed access to the object (col. 8, lines 33-38).

However, while *Garg* does disclose system-wide GUIDs identifying particular objects, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest that these GUIDs are in any way unique across different systems. Thus, *Garg*'s system still suffers from the same deficiencies as the related art of the instant Application, i.e., that individual administrative domains, such as a university and an affiliated library, must maintain separate redundant access control information (see FIGS. 1 and 2 and pages 1-3 of the instant Application). Applicant's specific comments regarding the pending claims follow.

Independent Claims 1, 6 and 10

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest either a storage system, memory or method where an object and an object identifier are stored, and where "the object identifier identifies the object, and the object identifier is unique within and outside of the storage system," as recited in independent claims 1, 6 and 10.

Specifically, *Garg* only discloses the provision of an object or object type GUID within a singl: storage system 200, as the only purpose of the GUIDs of *Garg* is to differentiate the individual objects managed by the object manager 225 within that operating system 200.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in *Garg* that the GUIDs

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disclosed therein are in any way unique outside of the operating system 200 (or for that matter, object manager 225).

Independent Claims 17 and 22

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest a method or code for “requesting access for a user to a remote resource, wherein the request includes a subject identifier for use in making an access control decision, and wherein the subject identifier is unique within and outside of the remote resource and identifies the user,” as recited in independent claim 17 and 22.

Specifically, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest any identifier that “identifies the user” and is “unique within and outside of the storage system.” Rather, the GUIDs cited by the Examiner as having some correspondence to the unique identifiers recited in other claims only identify objects in an operating system, not users. As discussed above, the only identification of user in *Garg* is provided by a USERID or GROUPID. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in *Garg* that either the USERID or GROUPID is “unique within and outside of the storage system.”

Independent Claim 24

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest a method of identifying a user comprising “sending a request for user information from the protecting reference monitor to the resource manager, the request including a subject descriptor for the user, wherein the subject identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID); receiving, in response to the request, the user information located based on the subject identifier,” as recited in independent claim 24.

Specifically, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest the use of a subject identifier for a user where the “subject identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID).” As discussed above, the only

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identifiers of users in *Garg* are USERIDs and GROUPIDs, neither of which *Garg* indicates to be universally “unique” in any way.

Independent Claim 27

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest an information storage management system where “the resource manager receives a user's request for access to the protected object, the request including a globally unique identifier for the user requesting the access, and in response to the user's request the resource manager sends over the communications channel to an external storage management system a request for information about the user, the request including the globally unique identifier,” as recited in independent claim 27.

Specifically, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest the provision of a “globally unique identifier” for a “user.” As discussed above, the only identifiers of users in *Garg* are USERIDs and GROUPIDs, neither of which *Garg* indicates to be “globally unique” in any way.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion of the use of a received “globally unique identifier” to retrieve information about the user in *Garg*. Rather, *Garg* only utilizes USERIDs and GROUPIDs as a static security list for access control.

Independent Claim 30

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest an information storage management system where “the resource manager receives a user's request for access to the protected object, the request including a globally unique identifier for the user requesting the access, and in response to the user's request the resource manager resolves the globally unique

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identifier to a user identifier recognized by an external storage management system; the resource manager sending to the external storage management system a request for information about the user, the request including the resolved user identifier; and wherein the resource manager upon receiving a response including user information about the user passes the user information to the access control unit; and based on the user information the access control unit determines whether to grant the subject access to the protected object," as recited in independent claim 30.

Specifically, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest the provision of a "globally unique identifier" for a "user," or the subsequent use of a received "globally unique identifier" to retrieve information about the "user" in *Garg*, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 27.

Independent Claims 34 and 36

Applicant respectfully submits that *Garg* fails to teach or suggest either a method or code for accessing a protected object comprising "sending a globally unique identifier for a user to a name resolving device, and receiving there from information about the user," and "sending to a storage management system containing an object a request for access to the object, the request including the information about the user," as recited in independent claims 34 and 36.

Specifically, *Garg* fails to teach or suggest the provision of a "globally unique identifier" for a "user." As discussed above, the only identifiers of users in *Garg* are USERIDs and GROUPIDs, neither of which *Garg* indicates to be "globally unique" in any way.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6, 10, 17, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34 and 36 are patentable over the applied reference. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that

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rejected dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-16, 18-21, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31-33 35, 37 and 38-42 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-42 are allowable. Thus it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-42.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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